

Only 11 Days Till
Chautauqua
Week

THE ALMA RECORD.

Chautauqua Week
July 31 to Aug. 7
Inclusive

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ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 20, 1916

WHOLE NUMBER 1948

W. J. BRYAN HERE CHAUTAUQUA WEEK

"War and Its Lessons," will
be Subject of Lecture on
August 2nd.

TICKET SALE IS BOOMING FAST

Many People Will Have to Pay
More Money Unless
They Buy Now

Hon. W. J. Bryan will lecture here on the chautauqua program August 2nd according to an announcement received today from the Redpath Chautauqua bureau. Mr. Bryan will lecture on "War and Its Lessons." The news of Mr. Bryan's appearance in the city comes as an unexpected surprise to the local chautauqua committee. Mr. Bryan is scheduled to appear in only a few of the older towns of the Redpath Chautauquas and this city having its fourth season with the Redpath people was selected as one of the stopping places for the premier leader of the Democratic party. Mr. Bryan will come to this city from Saginaw and local partisans are already laying plans to receive the distinguished ex-secretary of state in an appropriate manner.

The chautauqua ticket campaign, which commenced Monday under the supervision of representatives of the Civic Improvement League, is progressing nicely. This is the statement made by chairmen of the various committees that were appointed to boost the campaign in the different wards of the city. So enthusiastic has the sale commenced that it is probable the sale may be completed a few days previous to the opening day of the chautauqua. In case this condition develops many good intentioned chautauqua patrons will find that they have been left out in the cold, when the open program of the chautauqua begins on Monday, July 31. It is the opinion of many of the canvassers that the number of patrons will be greatly increased this year as the population has grown so much during the past twelve months. When the tickets are turned over to the Redpath management on the first day of the chautauqua the price of the season ticket will jump to \$3.00 and no ticket will be sold by the Redpath people for less than that amount. This is according to the contract with the chautauqua bureau and during the four seasons that this city has enjoyed a summer chautauqua not a single season ticket has been sold for less than the amount announced by the management. The price of the ticket for the entire seven day's program if purchased of the local committee is \$2.50. Buy by of them you not only save money, but assist in completing the contract number.

It is expected that the 9-day advertising man will arrive from Chicago the first of the week to continue the advance advertising campaign previous to the opening day of the chautauqua. Plans are now under way to make a swing around the county by automobile about the last of next week in an effort to hurry up any of the patrons who are waiting until the eleventh hour to secure their tickets. The committee are already soliciting automobiles and hope to have a representative number to make the entire county trip.

The chautauqua will be held at the regular chautauqua grounds on State Street. Centrally located, where a business man can run in for a few minutes, accessible from several streets and resting in the cool shade of Wright park, there is no site to be found in the city for a chautauqua tent.

ARCADA FARMERS' CLUB

The Farmers' club will be entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Ross, Riverside Dairy Farm, on the evening of July 27. The committee asks everyone to bring hymn books and folding table. The program for the evening as announced by the secretary is as follows: Opening song by Club, No. 132. Prayer.....Rev. W. H. Mason. Song by the Club, No. 228. Address of Welcome.....E. J. Ross. Roll call.....

Please Respond with Quotations
Recitation.....Mrs. G. V. Wright
Duet.....
Misses Weber and Amshury
Reading.....Mr. W. O. Hutchins
Speech.....Rev. J. Frank Jackson
Reading.....Mrs. W. O. Hutchins
Short Talk.....Rev. Thomas Brownlow
Recitation.....Wilmer Kneortzer
Recitation.....Rev. J. W. Priest
Victrola Music
Closing Song, No. 141
The committee in charge of the evening's program includes Mrs. B. F. Cline, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. N. B. Udell and Mrs. G. Irish.

MANY BICYCLE OFFENDERS

City Ordinance Not Observed in City
—Warrants May Be Sworn Out

Unless bicycle riders regard more carefully the city ordinance relative to the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks there may be several warrants sworn out this week. This is the statement made by citizens living in all parts of the city. It is said that bicycle riders pay no heed to the city ordinance and on some of the city streets it is dangerous not only for children who play on the walks, but for pedestrians to use them. While there may be some reason for riders using the walks when the unpaved streets are muddy, there can be no excuse for people clearing the walks to allow a bicycle rider to pass when the roads are in as fine a condition as at present is the opinion of those who are making the complaints. The offenders are not confined to boys, but many of our prominent citizens, it is said, enjoy speeding down the smooth cement walks, and in fact make it a regular practice.

AMERICAN TROOPS TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM MEXICO

Floyd T. Smith Made Sergeant
of 33rd Regiment—Troops
at Grayling Dissatisfied

The American expeditionary troops are to be withdrawn from Mexican territory. This announcement was made to the Mexican secretary of war, Tuesday, by James Linn Rogers, representative of the United States government. Brigadier General Pershing will commence his return to the border in a day or two. Mexican commissioners have already been appointed to meet in conference with United States representatives to settle the question causing the trouble between the two countries.

A party of mounted Mexicans exchanged fire with United States troops near El Paso, late Tuesday afternoon according to press reports from that city, and one Mexican was killed during the skirmish. According to reports the guardsmen were doing out post duty when the Mexicans rode up on the opposite of the Rio Grande and opened fire. Fifty shots were exchanged. It is stated that all the week parties of Mexicans have appeared along the banks of the river, which is only 300 yards wide at El Paso.

With colors flying and in excellent condition the last section of the Thirty-second Regiment, Michigan National guards, arrived in Camp Cotton at noon Tuesday. The troops went into camp along side of the Thirty-first and are now acclimating themselves to their new surroundings, which are noticeably different from Camp Ferris. But one accident marred the trip from Grayling to the border. At Muscatine, Ia., Sergeant J. C. Healy in alighting from the train sustained a fractured leg. The cross country trip in many respects was a big gala excursion for the boys. In every state the largest towns were out en masse to give the troops all the encouragement they could.

Floyd T. Smith of this city was appointed Sergeant of Co. I, 33rd Regiment, Michigan National guards, this week. Mr. Smith joined the National guard last winter at East Jordan, where he was influential in organizing the company.

There is considerable dissatisfaction among members of the Michigan guardsmen at Camp Ferris because of an announcement made this week that in all probability the guard would be kept in camp for a year and perhaps longer. This statement was made by J. L. Smith, who recently visited his son, Floyd, who is a member of Company I, 33rd Regiment. Mr. Smith said that so long as the men were receiving regular salary of \$2.00 per day from the state department they were satisfied, but now that they have been mustered in as regular members of the United States army at 50 cents and with the thought of staying in camp indefinitely they are very bitter. It is the general belief at Camp Ferris that even if the war cloud blows over the men will be retained in camp as part of the preparedness campaign adopted recently by congress, according to Mr. Smith.

DETROIT NEWS CONTEST

The Detroit News has commenced a subscription contest in the city. The winner of the contest will be sent as a representative from this city to Island Lake at Brighton, where with other contest winners from all over the state will enjoy a week's outing at the expense of the Evening News association. The following boys are entered in the contest: Russel McCarty, Albert Button, Velmer Lyons, Harry Piper, Ralph Garner, John Hyde, Russell Pembroke, Victor Slater and Donald Dunham.

Recent Photos From the Big Redpath Chautauqua Which Is Now En Route to This City



Photo by Norman Alley, Redpath Staff Photographer.
MME. JULIA CLAUSSEN ON HER PRIVATE CAR WITH BOUQUET GIVEN HER BY MUSICAL CLUB AT JACKSONVILLE.

REALTY BUSINESS INCREASES HALF

Despite Heat Wave Real Estate Men and Contractors are Kept "On the Job."

93 HOUSES NOW BUILDING

Many Families Forced to Occupy Tents—City Grows Eastward

That this city is experiencing a boom that will ultimately place her among the cities of the state is indicated by the reports and statements given out this week by local real estate dealers and contractors, which show a vast increase in business during the year and give promise of what is bound to come in the near future. During the past six months the total amount of business passing through the local real estate office in round numbers aggregates \$300,000. The real estate market remains firm and prices are higher than they have ever been in the city. Rents and prices for lots and homes are expected to soar still higher as the demand increases. The average price for a regulation lot in the most desirable locations is placed at \$300. It is reported that lots have sold for \$500 and \$600 and as high as \$700. In one instance two lots drew a check for \$2,500.

While most business men have been endeavoring to find relief from the torture of the sun's rays during the past few weeks, real estate men and contractors have been sweating in hot and close offices in an effort to keep pace with the ever increasing amount of business. Reports from every real estate office in the city and from contractors state that their business has doubled during the past three months; and with the announcement made recently of an increase in factory buildings in the city, the business of the summer and fall months will reach an aggregate that is hardly imaginable in a city of this size.

It is the consensus of opinion among real estate leaders that the present condition is just the fringe of the boom that is sweeping over this city. While the population has increased most a quarter in the last twelve months and more houses have been erected in a month than in any previous year heretofore real estate and contractors, who are keeping close tap on the boom proposition, are laying their plans for the actual beginning a year from now. To what extent they are correct in their conjectures is a matter that can be judged to a certain extent by the condition prevailing throughout the city at present. No estimate can be put on the size of the boom in money or house building until the first few months have been weathered and positive assurance is given that the boom is here to stay is the statement of real estate men.

The actual count there are at present 93 homes being built within the city limits and with announcements that half as many are to be commenced this summer the total number of residents that will be completed before the fall reaches almost the one hundred fifty mark. The most satisfactory of the present conditions continue.

BOARD TO INVESTIGATE

Pine River Included in Sanitary Survey of State Rivers

A complete sanitary survey of Pine river will be made by the state board of health during the summer months according to an official announcement coming from the department at Lansing. It is probable that the work will be started about August 1st, as the larger rivers will be inspected first. The river systems which are to be studied thoroughly by the state sanitary experts include the Saginaw and its tributaries, the Kalamazoo, the St. Joseph, the Muskegon, the Rouge, the Huron and the Raisin. The inspection will be carried on by members of the state board of health and several professors from the University of Michigan.

For several years the state board of health has considered making a survey of the river systems of the state, but until this year have never taken seriously the many complaints coming to the state office regarding the conditions existing throughout the state, especially in those localities where water supply is procured from rivers. The state department believes that such a survey will reveal the cause of considerable of the summer sickness prevalent throughout the state. The first week in August, the date when the inspection will probably commence on Pine river, will find the river system in the worse condition of the year. At present the water is decreasing daily last week dropping almost two feet. The board of inspection will find ample room for complaint.

CITY MAY GET SLICE OF PORK WORTH \$5,000

Public Buildings Bill Includes Appropriation for Building Site

If the omnibus public buildings bill, authorizing the construction of public buildings throughout the country, which was recommended to the house for passage succeeds in getting through without a quibbles from the president, Alma will be among the several cities in Michigan to secure a slice of the \$35,000,000 appropriation. The amount mentioned in the bill for Alma was \$5,000 to be used in securing a site for a new postoffice building.

The report on the measure was in direct defiance to the wishes of President Wilson who several months ago announced that no public buildings bill was to be passed at this session of congress next winter.

This city has been endeavoring to get the ears of some influential persons down in Washington for several years, but all efforts proved to no avail until last spring when a committee of citizens together with representatives from the local post office force called on Congressman Fordney at his home in Saginaw and asked him to assist in securing an appropriation for this city. The committee asked for a building but the news from Washington indicates that Mr. Fordney was not successful to that extent at this time. If the bill passes the next congress the best the government could possibly do would not give this city a building before 1918. Meanwhile the business of the local office is increasing every quarter and a congestion is sure to come if the present conditions continue.

COUNCIL NEEDS \$100,000 IN CASH

Proposed Extension to Water and Sewerage Systems to Use this Amount.

COUNCIL WANTS BOND ISSUE

Will be Submitted to Voters in Near Future—Board of Trade Backs Council

The common council sitting in special session, Tuesday evening, reached a definite decision regarding the need of certain improvements in the water and sewerage systems of the city after listening to information gathered in an investigation by a special committee relative to the present system and the probable cost of installing new equipment and extending the pipe lines in the city. The decision was an emphatic affirmative vote for everything that the committee recommended and the proper authorities were told to proceed to formulate the necessary resolutions that must be submitted to the people on a proposition of the nature.

The actual plans that Mayor McKinney and the council have been working on for several months include an extension of the sewerage system and water mains throughout the city, the construction of a municipal water power plant and the expenditure of a reasonable amount of money to give the city a healthy water supply. The extension of the sewerage and water systems while incorporated in the plan has not taken the attention of the council and the mayor so much as the improvement of the water supply of the city. In speaking of the water situation Mayor McKinney put it in this way:

"The water that this city is flowing through its water mains is a disgrace and if Alma ever expects to become of any importance steps have got to be taken to right this wrong when the city is small, when the cost can be reduced to a minimum. Throughout the state in our investigation we have found towns and cities not as important as this city forcing clean and healthy water through the water mains. They have their own water power plants and secure the supply from wells. With the supply of water found in this city there is no need to fear the success of this plan. If we continue using the river water contaminated as it is no one knows how soon the city will be in the grip of epidemic."

Previous to the council meeting representatives of the Board of Trade met with the aldermen and informally discussed the plans suggested by the mayor and his assistants. The plans were heartily endorsed and the council given to understand that their efforts in making any of the improvements would receive the support of the Board of Trade.

The amount of money needed to complete the necessary improvements included in the plans of the mayor and council will probably reach \$100,000 in round numbers. This sum is divided into three allotments giving \$40,000 for sewerage extension, \$40,000 for water pipe extension and \$20,000 for a city water supply and the (Continued on Page Four)

GROVER HOME ROBBED

Thieves Force Entrance in Day Time and Secure Clothes

Thieves broke into the home of John Grover, on the Holiday place in the south part of the city, Thursday afternoon, while the family were attending the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus. Mr. Grover lost a suit of clothes, a gold watch and considerable money. The theft was committed, it is thought, by followers of the circus.

BUY "PERIOD FURNITURE"

E. C. Crandell of this city and R. A. Crandell of Fremont were in Chicago and Grand Rapids last week looking over the furniture market. Among the many styles purchased was a large assortment of "Period Furniture." The public is invited to call at the Crandell & Scott furniture store and see these beautiful styles, typical of the various periods in history.

GREAT ALLIED DRIVE IS EXPECTED TO BRING END

First Three Weeks of Drive Gives Allies Footholds on All Fronts

The first three weeks of the allied drive shows conclusively that the crucial weeks in the history of the great conflict that is wide spread over the Old World have arrived, and that it is only a matter of time now until some unexpected turn of affairs will mark the beginning of the end. By many critics the drive which the Allies have been carrying on with such great success is thought to be the final and last blow. If the Allies continue their unprecedented smashes something has got to bend before them. If the Central Powers are able to stay off the attacks of the combined forces of the British, French and Russians it is impossible to say when the end will come. In London there is a feeling prevailing among the diplomatic circles that the Allied drive will bring the end and the Germans in Berlin are just as determined in their assertions that they will be able to withstand the assault. The next week will indicate what truth there is for making these statements.

It is given out officially from Berlin as well as from London that the Anglo-French troops have captured 25 villages and reconquered 60 square miles of French territory since the opening up of the drive the last of June. The French troops have penetrated to the Germans second line trenches and are within one mile of Peronne, the immediate objective point. The French advance has been slightly over six miles. The wonderful offensive of the English during the drive has netted practically four miles in the vicinity of Baugame where they have driven the Germans back into their second line trenches at one point. They are now within seven miles of Baugame and latest press account indicate that the Johnnies are still determined in their efforts to date the turning point of the war from this drive.

The loss of life on both sides has been terrible. The German official estimates place the actual number killed from 60,000 to 75,000, while the Allies say that this number is only two-thirds of their estimate. There has been no announcement of the number of killed on the side of the Allies, but the German critics say in their reports that the loss has been "frightful." More than 30,000 German prisoners have been taken.

A WELL-GUARDED MACHINE

A well-guarded machine is called a "safe" machine, but the element of human nature enters somewhere into the condition and safety of every machine. A well guarded machine may be smashed up and someone injured by an unsafe man. An unguarded machine may be used for years by a perfectly safe man and no accident occur. The ideal economic and industrial condition is "every machine guarded and every man safe." While we are using our inventive genius to protect the workingman from accidents, let us also endeavor to educate and train the man to be always fit for his job. He would thus be capable of working with machinery with safety. For instructions and hints along this line attend the Safety and Efficiency institute held in this city next week. Public invited, admission free.

ANNUAL SNAKE STORY AGAIN

The usual report is afloat that two snakes escaped from the zoo of the Hagenbeck-Wallace circus which was in the city last week. Thus far one of the beauties has been located and smashed to "smithereens." The other still lurks in the vicinity of the truck plant and is expected to make its appearance any moment.

CITY HEALTH DEPT. OPENS CAMPAIGN

Passage of Ordinances Tuesday Marks Beginning of Fight for Clean City.

MANY FAIL TO OBSERVE LAW

Health Department Says Half of Alma are Careless in Disposing of Garbage

"The majority of this city's 4500 inhabitants are careless in observing the ordinances of the health department of the city and a great number of people have no regard whatsoever for them, seeming to be satisfied to exist in unclean surroundings." This statement was made this week by City Health Commissioner Carney in discussing his plans for conducting a health campaign throughout the city. The first gun of the campaign in making this city clean was fired Tuesday evening at a special meeting of the council when two ordinances submitted by Dr. Carney were read and passed without a moment's hesitation. The ordinances are the first that have been passed in several years for the express purpose of improving sanitary conditions in the city. The ordinances went into effect immediately.

The ordinances passed Tuesday night pertain to the proper care and disposal of garbage and location of outhouses. The passages of this legislation makes it an offense to throw broken dishes, glass, ashes or anything that cannot be classed as garbage into garbage receptacles, and that no outside toilet will be allowed if within a reasonable distance from the sewer mains. The ordinance further stipulates that out buildings have got to be given greater care and that no building can be erected within a fifty foot limit.

In speaking of conditions, Dr. Carney said: "There are a great many people in this city right today who are breaking the law constantly. They may be doing it innocently but from now on we are going to keep a close watch throughout the city and those who continue to commit offenses will have to pay their fines. It has been the practice in the city to place garbage and garbage cans any place on the premises. I have seen garbage put in paper boxes, in coal scuttles, thrown on the ground to be shoveled up by the city garbage man. Some people put their garbage cans in the front yard to flirt with the flies and bugs and seemingly are not disturbed in the least over the possible result.

"In compelling persons to keep their garbage separate from other refuse both can be carted to the proper dumping ground and the spreading of contagious diseases is thus reduced to a minimum. The city dump has been a place where garbage has been thrown along with tin cans, ashes and everything else and no wonder residents living on the south side of the city were always complaining. The garbage has got to be kept out of the ash barrel and the ashes out of the garbage can in the future and the health department and the council are going to see that this is followed out.

"Before the department is through with this campaign the chicken nuisance in the city will either be eliminated from the city limits or such strict regulations placed on this business that the present disgusting condition will be removed. The city milk supply will have to be investigated and also the water supply before the campaign closes, but the department expects to conduct a campaign that will clean up everything as it goes and for this reason the worse conditions are to be looked after first."

The attitude of many parties in the city to the health campaign has been rather startling to the city officials. When persons have been asked to observe the laws they have even gone so far as to show the authorities that they aren't in the habit of following the ordinances regarding these matters it is stated by Dr. Carney. This has been very discouraging, but it is thought that the educational campaign conducted by the health department will in time remove such conditions. Dr. Carney made the statement that the worst offenders of the health ordinances are to be found in the business sections.

The next step in the campaign will be the passage of an ordinance relative to the conditions in and about stables. It is probable that this ordinance will be submitted at Tuesday's meeting of the council and will undoubtedly be favorably acted upon.

NOTICE

Parties wishing a dray for freight or baggage leave word at Record office and your wants will be cared for.
BAMBER'S DRAY LINE.